SUBJECTS.

25. *Reduction of tax on Punja lands.*

Dewan's reply.—This is taxing the land twice. Government will endeavour to remove the anomaly.

Mr. S. Shunmugam Pillai (Member, Tovala Taluk) requested that the tax on *Punja* lands might be realised in the same way as the tax on *Nunja* lands, that is, one-half in kind and the other half in *vilatharom*, instead of treating the whole tax as payable in kind and levying the value of half of it in money at four rupees per cottah. He requested that the rate might be reduced to two rupees per cottah.

Dewan's reply.—Will be looked into.

The same member also brought forward several other representations which may be summarised as follows :—

26. *Light assessment of lands irrigated by well-water.*

(1) That lands irrigated by well-water might be specially treated and assessed at favourable rates :

27. *Conservation of water in Porumboke tanks.*

(2) That the water in Porumboke tanks might be conserved and wholly utilized for irrigation purposes ;

28. *Opening of Agricultural banks.*

(3) That agricultural banks might be opened under Government management to help the needy ryots :

29. *Speedy disposal of petitions.*

(4) That greater despatch might be enforced in the disposal of petitions in the Revenue courts :

30. *Abolition of Court-fee for return of institution fees.*

(5) That the fee of three and a half fanams now levied by the Courts for returning a portion of the institution fees might be abolished, as it was hard that a party should be required to pay a fee for getting back his own money which might in some cases be less than the fee itself :

31. *Exemption of manure trees on tank-bunds from taxation.*

(6) That trees grown on tank-bunds might be exempted from taxation as those trees were the chief source of manure for the fields :

32. *Employment of Government agency for Thannikaval.*

(7) That, as the ryots paid a separate water-cess, the Government might bear the *Thannikaval* expenses and engage its own agency to see to the supply of water to the irrigation tanks and save the ryots from the trouble it entailed :

33. *Conference for taking measures for early completion of Settlement.*

(8) That a conference of Settlement officers and experienced non-officials might be convened to concert measures for the early completion of the Settlement operations :

34. *Status of officers enquiring into petitions, to be defined.*

(9) That the status of officers empowered to conduct enquiries on petitions might be fixed and defined :

35. *Enforcement of Departmental orders.*

(10) That the High Court and other Departmental Heads might be asked to exercise close supervision over the subordinate offices and see that the orders issued by them were acted up to : and

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